

July 29, 2021

Commissioner David R. Woolstenhulme
Utah System of Higher Education
The Gateway
60 South 400 West
Salt Lake City, UT 84101

Dear Commissioner Woolstenhulme:

The University of Utah is pleased with the funding we received for the Applied Sciences project which will be located on the main campus. Before beginning construction, we are providing information relevant to the intent language of Senate Bill 003 from the 2021 Legislative session.

Senate Bill 003 requires that institutions of Higher Education offer students “substantially equal opportunities to attend courses in-person as the institution of higher education offered before transitioning in-person courses.”

The University of Utah is looking forward to having students back on campus both in the classroom as well as in student housing (which currently has its longest wait list in history). The University of Utah currently offers substantially equal opportunities for students to attend courses in-person for Fall 2021 semester as we offered during the pre-pandemic Fall 2019 semester. For a number of years, we have offered students options of both online and in-person classes for a number of our courses. The percentage of students that choose to utilize a combination of in-person classes and online classes has steadily grown as students balance what works best for them. We are currently showing that students have registered for 94% of in-person classes for Fall 2021 compared to in-person registration for Fall 2019. We expect that percentage to increase further as students who have not yet registered complete their registration. In-person options are fully available for them.

The University of Utah is planning a complete return to on-campus instruction for Fall 2021. Although online courses can increase access for some students, we recognize the importance of and greatly value on-campus instruction and in-person activities to support student success.

Sincerely,



Michael L. Good
Interim President